

Signs of the Times

Four Prophetic Trends Today

II Tim. 3:1-5

“perilous = stressful

“They’re still using money, we gotta find some.”

1. An increase in idolatry

1. Verse 5 – *“Having a form of godliness...”*

- Pluralism

- From “The Faith of Barak Obama”,

(About his conversion) “That’s a path that has been shared by millions upon millions of Americans—evangelicals, Catholics, Protestants, Jews and Muslims alike; some since birth, others at certain turning points in their lives.”

“I am rooted in the Christian tradition. (Nevertheless) “I believe that there are many paths to the same place and that is a belief that there is a higher power, a belief that we are connected as a people.”

- Hyper grace message

Without repentance, no real change.

2. Clarification of “the gospel”

- The hyper grace message will force people to look at the obvious lack of godliness (“unthankful, unholy”).

John 3:16-18 16

“For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. 17 For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him. 18 Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe stands condemned already because he has not believed in the name of God’s one and only Son. (NIV)

3. Greater persecution

- Verse 12 - All who live godly...

- Persecution means you are penetrating the darkness

- Jesus said to rejoice!

Matt. 5: 11

“Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me. 12 Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

4. A spiritual awakening and harvest

- Two harvests –

Rev. 14:14-16 14

Then I looked, and behold, a white cloud, and on the cloud sat One like the Son of Man, having on His head a golden crown, and in His hand a sharp sickle. 15 And another angel came out of the temple, crying with a loud voice to Him who sat on the cloud, "Thrust in Your sickle and reap, for the time has come for You to reap, for the harvest of the earth is ripe." 16 So He who sat on the cloud thrust in His sickle on the earth, and the earth was reaped.

Rev. 14:17-19 17

Then another angel came out of the temple which is in heaven, he also having a sharp sickle. 18 And another angel came out from the altar, who had power over fire, and he cried with a loud cry to him who had the sharp sickle, saying, "Thrust in your sharp sickle and gather the clusters of the vine of the earth, for her grapes are fully ripe." 19 So the angel thrust his sickle into the earth and gathered the vine of the earth, and threw it into the great winepress of the wrath of God.

- This is echoed in earlier patterns in our nation:
1st and 2nd Great Awakenings.

Response

Each one of us will be in one of the two harvests!